ABSOLUTE RATING: Average

IMPROVEMENT RATING: Below Average

Number of Elementary schools with students like ours: 90.

The absolute ratings for those schools ranged from below average to good. For improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to excellent.

RATINGS OVER A 4-YEAR PERIOD

Absolute Rating
Average

Improvement Rating Below Average

2001 2002

2002

2003 2004

(Definitions of School Rating Terms on Page 4)

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS

Our School

Schools With Students Like Ours









Mathematics

English/ Language Arts

Mathematics

English/ Language Arts

Advanced







DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced Student performance exceeded expectations.
- **Proficient** Student performance met expectations.
- Basic Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

Science scores are to be reported on the 2004 School Report Card. Social studies scores are to be reported on the 2005 School Report Card.

PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING BASIC OR ABOVE ON THE PACT				
	English/			Social
Student Group	Language Arts	Math	Science	Studies
All students (n=1002)	69.5	51.2	N/A	N/A
Students with disabilities other than				
Speech (n=80)	47.5	22.8		
Students without disabilities (n=919)	71.6	53.7		
Gender				
Male (n=497)	64.4	50		
Female (n=501)	75	52.7		
Ethnic Group				
African American (n=589)	61	41.4		
Hispanic (n=10)	N/A	N/A		
White (n=396)	82.6	66.2		
Other (n=3)	N/A	N/A		
Lunch Status Group				
Free/reduced-price Lunch (n=639)	62.9	42.8		
Pay for lunch (n=357)	82.1	66.7		

SCHOOL PROFILE INDICATORS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
SCHOOL				
 Dollars spent per student 	\$4,357	N/A	\$5,472	\$5,347
 Prime instructional time 	89.8%	Up from 69.8%	90.3%	90.2%
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects STUDENTS (n=2,096)	20.1 to 1	N/A	18.4 to 1	18.7 to 1
Attendance Rate	96.2%	Up from 95.8%	96.2%	96.2%
 Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level 	5.3%	N/A	5.3%	4.1%
 Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (math) off grade level 	3.6%	N/A	3.6%	3.1%
 First graders who attended full day kindergarten 	98.5%	Down from 99.3	% 97.2%	96.3%
Meeting grade 1 and 2 readiness standards	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Retention rate	9.9%	Up from 6.1%	4.4%	3.6%
TEACHERS (n=138)				
 Professional Development days per teacher 	5 Days	Down from 8.8	7.3 Days	7.6 days
Attendance Rate	94.6%	Up from 76%	95.2%	95.1%
 Teachers with advanced degrees 	49.3%	Down from 54.6	% 44.8%	47.7%
Continuing contract teachers	79%	Down from 79.7	% 83.7%	83.8%
 Teachers with out-of-field permits 	1.4%	No change	0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from the previous school year	86.7%	Down from 90.6	% 87.3%	87.2%
Average teacher salary	\$36,179	Up 3.4%	\$36,879	\$37,520

SCHOOL FACTS

		Change From	Schools with Students	Median Elementary
	Our School	Last Year	like ours	School
SCHOOL				
 Percentage of expenditures spent on teacher salaries 	s 72.5%	N/A	65.6%	65.3%
 Principal's years at the school 	8	N/A	4	4.0
 Parents attending conferences 	88.6%	N/A	95.8%	95.6%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	N/A	Good	Good
STUDENTS				
 On academic plans 	63.7%	Up from 56.4%	52.5%	43.1%
 On academic probation 	0%	N/A	0%	0.0%
 Older than usual for grade 	3.5%	Up from 1.5%	1.5%	1.1%
 Suspended or expelled 	29	N/A	1	1
 Gifted and talented 	4.8%	Up from 3.8%	9%	11.5%
 With disabilities other than speech 	7.1%	Up from 6.8%	9.2%	8.4%

PRINCIPAL'S / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

Currently, Chester Park Complex is the largest elementary school in South Carolina. By design, the complex is actually two schools that function as one—a primary school (grades pre-k through two) and an intermediate school (grades three through five) connected by a core of shared facilities such as the media center, a cafeteria, an auditorium, and special education and fine arts classrooms. The student population is 60% African-American, 39% Caucasian, and 1% other, mostly Hispanic. Sixty-nine percent (69%) of students qualify for the federal free and reduced price meals program. Twelve percent (12%) of students are repeating their current grade level. Suspensions from school numbered 722 during 2000-2001; 2,605 bus suspensions were recorded.

Our school's mission is to provide a strong educational foundation that enables students to achieve success, to be productive citizens, and to become lifelong learners. This mission is supported by the strong belief that all children can learn when parents, students, school faculty and staff, and the community share responsibility for their success.

Faculty and staff have worked steadfastly for the past several years to implement a strong strategy-based language arts program addressing the unique needs of individual students and the connections between reading and writing. As a result of intensive staff development, curriculum revision, and a cooperative effort among all faculty, student achievement in this area is improving. Test scores indicate that a similar emphasis on mathematics and science is needed.

Our future goals include revising instruction in math and science to focus upon thinking and reasoning skills. Other plans are teaching our students to accept personal and social responsibility for their actions and helping them develop a variety of learning-to-learn skills such as time management, study habits, and problem solving strategies. Methods to increase parental support and understanding of school academic and behavioral expectations are being explored.

To accomplish our goals and improve student achievement the collaborative efforts of all stakeholders are needed. During 2001-2002, community-building activities within and beyond the school will be implemented to increase parental involvement, to strengthen unity among faculty members, and to build connections with the business community.



Chester Park Complex 835 Lancaster Highway Chester, SC 29706

Grades PRE-K-5 Elementary School

Enrollment: 2,096 Students

Principal

Dr. Nancy Coleman 803-581-7282

Superintendent

Barry E. Campbell 803-385-6122

Board Chair

Denise C. Lawson 803-581-6224

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual School	
Report Card	

2001

School Grade: Average

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Percent	Teachers	Students	Parents
Satisfied with learning environment	93.8	89.0	(Avail. 2002)
Satisfied with social and physical environment	94.5	83.0	
Satisfied with home-school relations	51.7	86.5	

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at www.myscschools.com